

## OPI Statewide Assessment Conference



**Sunday, April 27, 2008**

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Hotel Lobby

**Late Registration and Pick Up Conference Packets**

**Monday, April 28, 2008**

7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.  
Hotel Lobby

**Late registration and Pick Up Conference Packets**

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.  
Ballroom

**Breakfast - Sponsored by ACT, CTB/McGraw Hill, and OPI**

8:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.  
Ballroom

**Opening Remarks - Conference Kickoff**

Judy Snow, Assessment Director

Linda McCulloch, Superintendent of Public Instruction

8:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.  
Ballroom

**Connecting Assessments and Classrooms: Formative Assessment  
Dr. W. Jim Popham, Founder, IOX Assessment Associates**

9:45 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  
Ballroom

**Break - Sponsored by Measured Progress**

10:00 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.  
Judicial

**Keynote Follow-up**

10:00 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.  
State

**2008 National Rural Teacher of the Year**

Susan Luinstra, Bynum Elementary

Susan received the well deserved honor of being named the 2008 National Rural Teacher of the Year. This session highlights the small rural school and the wonderful opportunities for learning. Join Susan for her inspiring presentation, "The Gift of a Rural School."

10:00 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.  
Lewis

**Essential Components of Writing Assessments**

Carolee Gunn, Consultant

Purpose, format, and technical adequacy are important considerations in the design and implementation of a writing assessment program. This session will explore these considerations.

10:00 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.  
Governor

**NEPs, LEPs, and FEPs and the CRT (a few FYIs)**

Eliza Sorte, NW Montana Education Cooperative

Don't get caught up on the acronyms while working with limited English proficient students. Come get some classroom assessment strategies, suggestions for modifications and accommodations, as well as a few tricks to help your limited English proficient students develop background knowledge about the Montana Criterion-Referenced Test (CRT).

## OPI Statewide Assessment Conference



**Monday, April 28, 2008  
(continued)**

10:00 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.  
Clark

### **Using the NAEP Questions Tool for Constructing Classroom Assessments**

Mike Chapman, OPI & Karma Nelson, CLTW

This presentation will concentrate on the creation of high-quality local classroom assessments through the use of the NAEP Questions Tool. Beyond giving teachers access to a nationally validated item bank, the tools also present them with powerful professional development opportunities. The audience will be given a complete handout of information used in a live demonstration of the Tool's capabilities. The demonstration will show how to access the tools, navigate through features, set criteria for item selection by subject, grade, and level of difficulty, copy items to a downloadable folder, view actual graded student responses with analytical comments by scorers, and interpret item-by-item statistics showing nationwide scoring percentages. Finally teachers will receive instruction and recommendations concerning best practices for incorporating the downloaded items into their own local assessments.

10:00 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.  
Montana

### **Connecting Assessments and Instruction for Students Taking the CRT-Alt**

Gail McGregor, University of Montana & Pam Green, Measured Progress

This session will focus on how information gained from the CRT-Alt can be used to guide program planning and instruction for students with severe cognitive disabilities. Participants will look at the report generated for students taking the CRT-Alt, and then consider the potential “mismatch” that may exist between a student’s current instructional program and what is assessed by the CRT-Alt. Changing perspectives about curricular approaches for this population of students will be shared, along with examples of materials and lessons that enable students performing at basic levels in the areas of academic to work on standards-based skills that are included in Montana’s Extended Standards and Benchmarks documents in the areas of reading, math, and science.

11:20 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Judicial

### **Formative Assessment Basics**

Sue Brookhart, Brookhart Enterprises LLC

Formative Assessment is described as a cycle (learning goal – student work – assessment against the goal – improvement) best played out in classroom practices which will be identified and illustrated. The role of Benchmark or Interim assessments in informing instruction is also addressed.

11:20 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
State

### **CPS + CRT = SUCCESS**

Dena Kirschten, Plevna Public Schools

This session will provide teachers and administrators the opportunity to observe how I have taken the CRT released questions and entered them in the Classroom Performance System. The entered questions can now be used in a brief review format, testing format, or jeopardy games for students to learn from. Teachers will see how using the technology will make preparing for "THE TEST" much easier and more enjoyable for students.

## OPI Statewide Assessment Conference



**Monday, April 28, 2008  
(continued)**

11:20a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
Lewis

### **Local Writing Assessment Panel**

Dr. Carolee Gunn will moderate a panel of representatives of Montana schools that administer a local writing assessment. Topics will include purpose, format, grades, scoring, and reporting.

11:20 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Clark

### **Effectiveness Reports and the 5YCEP**

Willy Schauman, OPI

Background information of the 5YCEP and where we go from here. The annual electronic effectiveness report. Why are we doing this?

11:20 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Montana

### **LEP Students in Montana**

Lynn Hinch, OPI

A discussion of the identification and status of limited English proficient students in schools in Montana.

11:20 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Governor

### **Informative Assessment Strategies to Improve Student Learning**

Karma Nelson, CLTW for Anne Keith, Bozeman Public Schools

Implementing informative assessment strategies in your school or district can raise student achievement 2 to 4 grade levels. Come learn practical ideas to use in your classrooms. Many of the ideas shared are from the experts at the Assessment Training Institute in Portland, Oregon.

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.  
Ballroom

### **Lunch - Sponsored by Infinite Campus Montana City 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band**

1:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Judicial

### **Focus Group 1**

Dr. Stanley Rabinowitz, assisted by Montana educators, will provide guidance for focus groups to discuss future directions for Montana statewide assessment. The ideas from these groups will be incorporated in a survey of Montana educators in September 2008. This is an opportunity for Montana educators to consider several ideas which may include formative, local, and performance assessments and the next generation of the CRT. In order to ensure space in the focus group of your choice, please stop by the registration table to obtain a pass.

1:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
State

### **Data Analysis and MARS (New *iAnalyze*)**

Dan Verdick, Measured Progress

*iAnalyze*, the Measured Progress online reporting tool, has been improved and streamlined for the 2008 CRT and CRT-Alternate test results. The new name is **MARS** (Montana Analysis and Reporting System). This session will provide basic training for the use of **MARS**. It's out of this world.

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**Monday, April 28, 2008  
(continued)**

1:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Lewis

### **Commercial Writing Assessment Panel**

Dr. Linda Peterson will moderate a panel of representatives of testing companies to provide information on their off-the-shelf and/or customized writing assessments. Topics will include the research foundation for the assessments, formats, technical adequacy, scoring, reporting, and alignment with Montana Content Standards and Performance Descriptors.

1:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Clark

### **The Mysteries of AYP**

BJ Granbery & Donna O'Neill, OPI

This session will help educators develop an understanding of what goes into the AYP calculations, how the coding in AIM determines the student groups and the other indicators, and the consequences of drawing incorrect premature conclusions from the data. .

1:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Montana

### **SMART Boards in the Classroom**

Mike Agostinelli, Helena Public Schools

This session will focus on how you can integrate SMART Board into your classroom, boardroom, or office effectively. The main goal of this session is to demonstrate the possibilities that SMART Boards bring. Hands-on time with the SMART Board will be incorporated into the session.

1:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Governor

### **How to Grade for Learning**

Karma Nelson, CLTW for Anne Keith, Bozeman Public Schools

Grading is a private practice not many teachers talk about. Grading experts offer many strategies for teachers that allow grading to promote rather than hinder learning. Be prepared to be uncomfortable as you examine your own grading practices. Many of the ideas shared are from the experts at the Assessment Training Institute in Portland, Oregon.

3:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.  
Ballroom

### **Break - Sponsored by Measured Progress**

3:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Judicial

### **Focus Group 2**

Dr. Stanley Rabinowitz, assisted by Montana educators, will provide guidance for focus groups to discuss future directions for Montana statewide assessment. The ideas from these groups will be incorporated in a survey of Montana educators in September 2008. This is an opportunity for Montana educators to consider several ideas which may include formative, local, and performance assessments and the next generation of the CRT. In order to ensure space in the focus group of your choice, please stop by the registration table to obtain a pass.

## OPI Statewide Assessment Conference



**Monday, April 28, 2008  
(continued)**

3:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
State

### **Indian Education for All ... Assessing our Progress**

Mike Jetty, OPI

Participants will gain a general overview of the latest curriculum and professional development initiatives to implement Indian Education for All. Ideas, resources and strategies for implementation and classroom/school assessment will be provided.

3:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Lewis

### **Formative Assessment Panel**

Sue Brookhart, Moderator

Dr. Sue Brookhart will moderate a panel of representatives of testing companies to provide information on their products and services. Topics will include type of information derived from use of their products and services, instructional intervention suggestions, and alignment with Montana Content Standards and Performance Descriptors.

3:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Clark

### **Data Quality and AIM**

Sara Loewen, OPI

OPI staff will discuss best practices for managing and reporting data to ensure data quality. Topics include discussion of data ownership roles and responsibilities, data verification practices of OPI, and training tools available to districts and their staff.

3:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Montana

### **Exporting and Reporting of CRT Achievement Data**

Tracey Kinney, SFS Consulting & Associates

Learn how to: 1. Export CRT data to Excel for extending analysis and reporting alternatives; 2. Further analyze intervention needs for students after developing classroom or individual achievement profiles; 3. Design reports with Excel that are more appropriate for small schools, classrooms, or individual students.

3:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Governor

### **Response to Intervention (RTI): The Montana Framework**

Tara Ferriter-Smith, OPI

Interest in RTI has continued to increase as schools begin implementation. This session will outline the Montana RTI Framework, discuss the essential components for the implementation of RTI, and will discuss the complex implications for the role of general and special education as it relates to the implementation of RTI.

## OPI Statewide Assessment Conference



**Tuesday, April 29, 2008**

7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.  
Hotel Lobby

**Registration and Pick Up Conference Packets**

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.  
Ballroom

**Breakfast - Sponsored by Riverside Publishing, Questar Assessment, Inc, and OPI**

8:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.  
Ballroom

**Welcome**

**Judy Snow, Assessment Director**

**Bud Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction**

8:45 am – 9:45 a.m.  
Ballroom

**Dr. Scott Marion, Vice President, National Center for the Improvement in Educational Assessment, Inc.**

**Connecting Assessments and Classrooms: Interim Assessments**

9:45 am - 10:00 a.m.  
Ballroom

**Break - Sponsored by Measured Progress**

10:00 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.  
Meadowlark

**Keynote Follow-up**

10:00 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.  
State

**Data Analysis and MARS (New *iAnalyze*)**

Dan Verdick, Measured Progress

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10:00 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.  
Lewis

**MontCAS Update**

Judy Snow, OPI

This session will provide an overview and update of the components of MontCAS.

10:00 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.  
Clark

**Universal Design for Assessment: What Tomorrow Will Bring**

Mike Russell, Boston College & Gail McGregor, University of Montana

This session will examine how computer-based technologies are being used to create universally designed assessments that meet the needs of individual students. Together, we will explore a cutting edge approach to assessment that integrates a variety of accommodations into a single assessment and provides students the flexibility needed to acquire a purer understanding of their learning. The session is a look into the future of student assessment and will provide participants with an understanding of how teachers and large-scale testing programs can easily adapt the assessment environment based on each individual student's need.



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**Tuesday, April 29, 2008  
(continued)**

10:00 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.  
Montana

### **Sustainable School Improvement**

Jack O'Connor & Nancy Coleman, OPI

How to implement the school improvement process and keep it going in the schools. Nine Montana correlates and how they relate to the effective schools process.

10:00 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.  
Governor

### **2008 National Rural Teacher of the Year**

Susan Luinstra, Bynum Elementary

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11:20 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Lewis

### **How to Include All Students in MontCAS**

Phil Robakiewicz, Measured Progress

The Montana Comprehensive Assessment system provides a variety of methods for including all students. This session will focus on those methods including current research through two grants to study assessment based on modified achievement standards. One grant will target high school reading; the other will focus on grades 7 and 8 math and reading. Opportunities for participation in the research will be presented.

11:20 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Clark

### **AIM Update**

Madalyn Quinlan, OPI

This session will explore the current status and future plans of the Achievement in Montana (AIM) Student Information System.

11:20 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Montana

### **ELP Assessment: Administration and Results**

Karen Richem, OPI

This session will examine the ELP Assessment administration and results. We will talk about the upcoming assessment in the fall, especially the timeline for having student information in AIM.

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**Tuesday, April 29, 2008  
(continued)**

11:20 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Governor

**Using Common Assessments as Formative Assessments to Raise Student Achievement Through Grade Level Professional Learning Communities**

Karma Nelson, CLTW, Annette Moody & Susie Bollinger, Hardin Public Schools

These presenters will share their efforts to establish grade level professional learning communities through the use of formative assessments to increase students' achievement in mathematics. Teachers establish trust and grow professionally when they are offered the opportunity to engage in professional learning communities (in this case designing and scoring assessments based on data). Unlike summative assessments, formative assessments involve students in their own learning through extensive descriptive feedback and inform teachers' instructional decisions. Research shows the impact on student achievement through the use of formative assessments.

11:20 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Bitterroot

**LEP Students in Montana**

Lynn Hinch, OPI

A discussion of the identification and status of limited English proficient students in schools in Montana.

12:30 – 1:30 p.m.  
Ballroom

**Lunch - Sponsored by Data Recognition Corp. and OPI**

1:30 p.m.

**Conference Adjourned**